

Elbow Grease

Session takes approx. 75 mins

Aim: To learn about homes in the past and how the majority of jobs were done by hand. To learn about the different objects that would have been used in the past.

Session breakdown

Whole class discussion. How do we tackle chores in the home today? Imagine a world before all our machines! Focus on the most challenging job – washing the clothes. The children are taken through each step of wash day, using original artefacts and role play.

Circus of Activities

Dressed up in mop caps and aprons the children are challenged to do the wash day jobs! Children need to be in five groups so they can have a go with the historic objects: Ironing, Washing, Scrubbing, mangling, using the tongs and pegging the clothes.

Creative Activity:

The session is concluded by the groups coming back together to make felt washing line pictures to take home.

Curriculum Links:

- History: changes within living memory
- Continuity and change